

0350
O I P E J C 1 0 4
MAY 20 2005
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE
In re

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

)

1

.

)

.

1

1

.

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 35 C.F.R. § § 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. No copies of the U.S. patent documents are enclosed, because they are available from the United States Patent and Trademark Office. A copy of the document 2000-277003 listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed, although only English abstracts of the other non-English documents besides document 2000-277003 are enclosed, because those non-English documents already are of record.

A copy of a Japanese Official Letter issued in a foreign counterpart

application was submitted with the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement filed on November 30, 2004. A further copy of the Japanese Official Letter is provided herewith as a supplement thereto, for the Examiner's convenience. Applicants now respectfully submit the attached paper entitled "Reason for Refusal" (pages 2-7), prepared by the Applicants, which includes at least a partial English Translation of the Japanese Official Letter. Also, the attached "Reason for Refusal" includes therein (by insertion) for the Examiners convenience, English translations of relevant portions of prior art references cited in the Japanese Official Letter (and referred to in the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement). The Examiner is respectfully referred to the attached paper ("Reason for Refusal") for a further explanation of relevance of the references mentioned therein. All of those references were cited in previous Information Disclosure Statements in the present application.

Furthermore, for a further explanation of relevance of previously cited Japanese document 2000-277003, the Examiner is respectfully referred to U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0136896 A1, published September 26, 2002.

Copies of the documents cited in the Japanese Office Action are not submitted herewith, since the documents have been previously submitted and cited in at least one of Information Disclosure Statements filed on November 30, 2004 and September 9, 2003.

U.S. Patent No. 6,628,053 issued from Application No. 09/178,680, of record in the Information Disclosure Statement filed September 10, 2003.

U.S. Patent No. 6,853,126 issued from Application No. 09/955,137, of record in the Information Disclosure Statement filed September 10, 2003.

U.S. Patent No. 6,858,990 issued from Application No. 10/235,809, of record in the Information Disclosure Statement filed September 10, 2003.

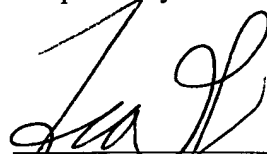
U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003-00006684 A2 issued from Application No. 10/106,484, of record in the Information Disclosure Statement filed September 10, 2003.

U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003-0048055 issued from Application No. 10/234,213, of record in the Information Disclosure Statement filed September 10, 2003.

Entry and consideration hereof are earnestly solicited, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to confirm in writing that he has considered the present Information Disclosure Statement, by returning an initialed copy of the Form PTO-1449.

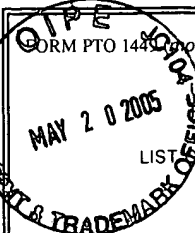
Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Frank A. DeLucia
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 42,476

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200
500664v1

| | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--------------|--|------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i> </div> | | | | ATTY DOCKET NO. 03500.015728. | | APPLICATION NO. 09/940,642 | |
| | | | | APPLICANT SHINICHI KAWATE ET AL. | | | |
| | | | | FILING DATE AUGUST 29, 2001 | | GROUP 2879 | |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
| *EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
| | | 2002/0136896 A1 | 9/02 | Takikawa et al. | 428 | 408 | |
| | | 6,628,053 | 9/03 | Den et al. | 313 | 310 | |
| | | 6,853,126 | 2/05 | Nomura | 313 | 492 | |
| | | 6,858,990 | 2/05 | Tsukamoto | 315 | 169.1 | |
| | | 2003-0006684 A1 | 1/03 | Kawate et al. | 313 | 311 | |
| | | 2003-0048055 A1 | 3/03 | Ishikura et al. | 313 | 311 | |
| | | | | | | | |
| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT |
| | | 2000-277003 | 10/00 | JAPAN | | | Abstract |
| | | 2001-052598 | 2/01 | JAPAN | | | Abstract |
| | | 09-237565 | 9/97 | JAPAN | | | Abstract |
| | | 11-194134 | 7/99 | JAPAN | | | Abstract |
| | | 2000-191302 | 7/00 | JAPAN | | | Abstract |
| OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | | | | | | |
| | | Paper entitled Reason for Refusal (pages 2-7), which is an English translation of part of a 2004 Japanese Official Letter | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| EXAMINER | | | | DATE CONSIDERED | | | |

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.
 Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 1 of 1